

SECRET

PTQ7579

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ACTION EUR-00

INFO	LOG-00	AID-00	CEA-01	CIAE-00	CTME-00	INL-00	DODE-00
	SRPP-00	EB-00	E-00	VC-00	FRB-00	H-01	TEDE-00
	INR-00	IO-00	ITC-01	L-00	CAC-00	VCE-00	AC-01
	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OIC-02	OMB-01	OPIC-01	PA-00	PM-00
	PRS-00	ACE-00	P-00	SCT-00	SP-00	SS-00	STR-00
	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00	VO-03	DTC-00	PMB-00	DRL-02
	G-00	SAS-00	/013W				

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O 071206Z NOV 02
FM AMEMBASSY SARAJEVO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2188
INFO DEPT OF TREASURY WASHDC
CIA WASHDC
DIRFBI WASHDC
NSC WASHDC
DOJ WASHDC
SECDEF WASHDC
DIRNSA FT GEORGE G MEADE MD

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Archie Bolster, Senior
Reviewer

RELEASED IN FULL

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 SARAJEVO 003636

STATE FOR EUR (BOGUE), D (PITTMAN), P (BRINK), EUR/SCE
(GREGORIAN), E (SHUB), EB/ESC/ESP (GLASS), S/CT,
IO/PHO (PEREZ), INL/PC (AIMS), INL/AAE (HARTSHORN)

NSC FOR TEPPER

SECRET

PAGE 02 SARAJE 03636 01 OF 02 072140Z
TREASURY FOR OFAC DIRECTOR (NEWCOMB), GENCOUNS
(AUFHAUSER), DAS FOR TERRORISM (ZARATE), E.MEYER AND
A.CORFIELD

E.O. 12958: DECL 11/06/12
TAGS: EFIN, ETTC, KVPR, PTER, CVIS, PREL, PGOV, BK
SUBJECT: TERRORIST FINANCE: BOSNIA'S DIRTY DOZEN

(U) CLASSIFIED BY AMBASSADOR CLIFFORD G. BOND FOR
REASONS: 1.5 (B) AND (D).

REF: SARAJEVO 3618

SUMMARY AND ACTION REQUEST

1. (S/NF) POST URGENTLY REQUESTS THE ASSISTANCE OF TWO OFAC COUNTER-TERRORISM SPECIALISTS FOR A PERIOD OF SIX WEEKS TO DEVELOP FORENSIC FINANCIAL EVIDENCE IN CONNECTION WITH THE OPERATION OF ISLAMIC CHARITIES IN BOSNIA. POST BELIEVES THAT AT LEAST A DOZEN ISLAMIC NGOS ARE CURRENTLY INVOLVED IN PROVIDING FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO KNOWN TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS. IF SUFFICIENT EVIDENCE CAN BE ACCUMULATED LINKING THESE NGOS TO TERRORIST GROUPS, WE HAVE ONLY A LIMITED WINDOW OF OPPORTUNITY TO SHUT THE NGOS DOWN BEFORE NEW -- AND POSSIBLY LESS COOPERATIVE -- GOVERNMENTS ARE PUT IN PLACE IN BIH. THE EMBASSY'S COOPERATING PARTNER, THE FINANCIAL POLICE, HAS ALREADY CLOSED TWO ISLAMIC NGOS, AL-HARAMAYN ISLAMIC FOUNDATION AND GLOBAL RELIEF FOUNDATION AND HAS ASSURED US THEY INTEND TO PROSECUTE THESE TWO CASES. OFAC PERSONNEL

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WOULD PROVIDE THE FINANCIAL INVESTIGATIVE CAPACITY TO BUILD STRONG PROSECUTORIAL CASES, GIVING NEEDED LEVERAGE FOR THE FINANCIAL POLICE TO MOVE AGAINST THE OTHER NGOS AS WELL. OUR REQUEST IS SUPPORTED BY THE OFFICE OF THE HIGH REPRESENTATIVE (OHR) AND SFOR, BOTH OF WHOM HAVE BEEN ESSENTIAL PARTNERS IN POST COUNTER-TERRORISM EFFORTS. END SUMMARY.

DIRTY DOZEN

2. (S/NF) THE FEDERATION FINANCIAL POLICE (FP) HAVE PROVIDED US WITH A LIST OF TWELVE DIFFERENT ISLAMIC CHARITIES (REFTEL) THAT THEY HAVE TARGETED FOR INVESTIGATION AND POTENTIAL PROSECUTION. THEY INCLUDE: BENEVOLENCE INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION (BIF), GLOBAL RELIEF FOUNDATION (GRF), AL-HARAMAYN ISLAMIC FOUNDATION, ACTIVE ISLAMIC YOUTH ORGANIZATION, AL-FURQAN, SAUDI HIGH COMMISSION FOR RELIEF, AL-HARAMAYN AL AQSA, HUMAN APPEAL INTERNATIONAL, HUMAN RELIEF INTERNATIONAL, INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC RELIEF ORGANIZATION, NEDWAH AND TAIBAH INTERNATIONAL AID ASSOCIATION. THE FIRST SIX NGOS ARE ON THE EMBASSY'S LIST OF HIGHEST PRIORITIES IN TERMS OF OUR OWN EFFORTS TO SHUT DOWN NGOS WITH LINKS TO KNOWN TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS.

LACK OF TRAINED PERSONNEL

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FINANCIAL POLICE AND BANKING REGULATORS) HAVE EXTENDED
THEIR COOPERATION TO BLOCK THE ASSETS OF SUSPECT NGOS
LISTED UNDER E.O. 13224, CLOSING THEM DOWN HAS BEEN
ANOTHER MATTER. UNDER BOSNIA'S COMPLEX LEGAL SYSTEM,
PERMANENT CLOSURE OF THESE ORGANIZATIONS WILL LIKELY
REQUIRE DETAILED FORENSIC FINANCIAL EVIDENCE TO BUILD
SOLID CASES AGAINST THEM. AS NOTED REFTTEL, GOVERNMENT
AUTHORITIES DO NOT HAVE THE CAPABILITIES TO DEVELOP
SUCH EVIDENCE. THE USG INTENDS TO PROVIDE THE
FINANCIAL POLICE, TAX AUTHORITIES, BANKING REGULATORS,
PROSECUTORS AND JUDGES WITH TRAINING TO IMPROVE THEIR
FINANCIAL INVESTIGATIVE CAPACITY. IN THE MEANTIME,
HOWEVER, WE NEED EXPERTISE ON THE GROUND NOW TO
DEVELOP THIS EVIDENCE. WE BELIEVE OFAC PERSONNEL
COULD BEST MEET THOSE NEEDS.

MAINTAINING MOMENTUM

4. (S/NF) BRINGING OFAC EXPERTISE TO BEAR ON THE
PROBLEM IS URGENT, AS THERE IS NO GUARANTEE THAT WE
WILL HAVE THE SAME LEVEL OF COOPERATION ON COUNTER-
TERRORISM WHEN BOSNIA'S NEW GOVERNMENTS COME INTO

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PLACE. WHILE THE WINDOW OF OPPORTUNITY IS STILL OPEN,
POST BELIEVES STRONGLY WE SHOULD WORK WITH LOCAL
AUTHORITIES TO SHUT DOWN AS MANY OF THESE NGOS AS
POSSIBLE. (NOTE: ONLY 10 NGOS REMAIN OPEN, AS THE
FEDERATION FINANCIAL POLICE JUST CLOSED AL-HARAMAYN
ISLAMIC FOUNDATION AND GLOBAL RELIEF FOUNDATION --
SEE REFTTEL. END NOTE.) THE FINANCIAL POLICE HAVE
ASSURED US THEY WILL MOVE TO PROSECUTE CASES AGAINST
THESE AND OTHER SUSPECT ISLAMIC NGOS. WE ARE
CONCERNED, HOWEVER, THAT AS JUDICIAL AUTHORITIES MOUNT
THEIR CASES, THEY WILL NEED MORE DETAILED AND
COMPREHENSIVE EVIDENCE TO ENSURE THESE ORGANIZATIONS
ARE SHUT DOWN PERMANENTLY. THAT KIND OF EVIDENCE CAN
COME ONLY FROM TRAINED FINANCIAL INVESTIGATORS.

ACTION REQUEST

5. (S/NF) POST REQUESTS THE ASSISTANCE OF TWO FULL-
TIME OFAC COUNTER-TERRORISM FINANCE SPECIALISTS OVER A
SIX WEEK PERIOD TO DEVELOP FORENSIC FINANCIAL EVIDENCE
AIMED AT PERMANENTLY CLOSING ISLAMIC NGOS INVOLVED IN
SUPPORTING TERRORIST GROUPS. OUR REQUEST IS SUPPORTED

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BY HIGH REPRESENTATIVE PADDY ASHDOWN, WHO RAISED THE

BOND

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